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DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSE COMMITTEE MINUTES

The Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Committee held a meeting on November 16, 2015, at 4:00 p.m., in Conference Room A, Cannon Building, 861 Silver Lake Boulevard, Dover, DE.

- PRESENT:** Sandy Elliott, CNM; Stephen Lawless, MD; Megan Williams, DNP, FNP-C ; Leena Paul, MD; Cindy Cunningham, PMHCNS/NP; Tejal Patel, PharmD; Joseph Parise, DO
- ABSENT:** Christopher Martin, MD; Delphos Price, CRNA
- GUESTS:** Sarah Carmody, Executive Director DNA; Jill Englund Jensen, DNP, RN, FNP-BC
- PRESIDING:** Megan Williams, DNP, FNP-C
- STAFF:** Peggy Mack, PhD, APRN, PMHCNS, Executive Director, Delaware Board of Nursing; Meaghan Jerman, Board Liaison, Delaware Board of Nursing; Jennifer L. Singh, Deputy Attorney General, Delaware Department of Justice

1.0 CALL TO ORDER: Dr. Williams called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

2.0 INTRODUCTION OF NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

New committee members introduced themselves. The new members were welcomed to the committee.

3.0 OLD BUSINESS

3.1 Review and Approval of October 26, 2015 Meeting Minutes

The committee reviewed the minutes from the October 26, 2015 meeting. Ms. Elliott made a motion, seconded by Dr. Lawless, to approve the minutes as written. By majority vote, the motion carried with Dr. Patel abstaining.

4.0 NEW BUSINESS

4.1 Review Draft Rules and Regulations

Ms. Singh provided a draft of the Board of Nursing's Rules and Regulations relating to Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) and highlighted the substantive changes. Dr. Parisi inquired if an APRN could work in varying specialties such as Pediatrics and Psychiatric Mental Health. Ms. Singh explained that an APRN has to work within the scope of practice based on their education and national certification. An APRN with a national certification cannot work in a role outside this scope. There was

discussion on the timeframe to complete the required 4,000 clinical hours and what constitutes active practice. Ms. Singh noted that many of the proposed regulatory changes are regarding prescriptive authority. She clarified that once the Board of Nursing approves the Committees suggested revisions, a public hearing will be held and there will be time for public comment on the Committees suggestions. Dr. Williams suggested that all of the APRN roles be grouped together within the definitions section of the regulations. Ms. Singh advised that she will look into this, but they may not be able to be reordered. The committee discussed where in the proposed regulations the benchmarks, competencies, and metrics could be inserted into the regulations. Ms. Singh suggested they be included within the prescriptive authority component of the regulations.

4.2 Review of National Standards and Scopes of Practices

Dr. Williams reported that APRN members submitted information for committee review on their respective national standards. Committee members provided a summary of the documents they provided and how they relate to developing competencies, benchmarks, and metrics. Ms. Cunningham provided an overview of the Clinical Nurse Specialist roles. Ms. Elliott provided a summary of Clinical Nurse Midwives competencies. Dr. Williams explained competencies of the Nurse Practitioner. The committee addressed the challenge of developing specificity without creating additional challenges for the licensee. Ms. Elliott suggested that the Committee look to what the educational programs are requiring and elaborate from it. Ms. Cunningham suggested developing a tool similar to a Likert scale. Dr. Lawless referenced a score card that will be required as part of Medicare that the committee could consider.

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Singh provided a draft of suggested clean-up language for the statute. Ms. Singh explained that the Committee may want to consider if the collaboration with a dentist is required. The committee will review the draft and discuss it at their December meeting.

6.0 OTHER BUSINESS (for discussion only)

There was no other business before the Committee.

4.0 PUBLIC COMMENT

Sarah Carmondy cautioned about making restrictive regulations and offered it is often better that they be broader. She also noted that a practicing nurse is not necessarily actively employed and suggested that the Committee also consider volunteer hours. Ms. Englund Jenson explained that she has little contact with her collaborator and asked if another APRN could be her collaborator. Ms. Cunningham clarified APRNs can be a preceptor.

NEXT MEETING – The next meeting will be held on December 7, 2015 at 4 p.m.,
Conference Room A.

ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Peggy Mack, PhD, APRN, PMHCNS
Executive Director, Delaware Board of Nursing